BRITISH COLUMBIA | BC Wildfire Service

July 20, 2021

WILDFIRE UPDATE

SPARKS LAKE (K21001)	FIRE SIZE: 47,732 hectares (estimated)	FIRE STATUS: Out of Control

CONDITIONS:

Yesterday, July 19, crews completed some small hand ignitions in the Wadley Hill area to tie into some of the planned ignition from the day before. Today, crews will be working on mop-up in the Wadley Hill area, as well as along the east flank from Tranquille road to Frog Lake. Crews will begin work to establish direct line by Frog Lake.

OBJECTIVES:

Today, crews continue to work on patrol and mop-up in the Deadman Valley and will work on establishing containment from Sabiston Lake north towards the fire perimeter. Equipment is continuing work around Mount Uren to build control lines and crews will use direct attack methods from Sabiston Lake, south around Mount Uren. A planned ignition operation could occur in the Mount Uren area over the next several days if on-site conditions are favourable. Today, crews will be assessing opportunities for that ignition operation with support from an Ignition Specialist. Air support will be available to support ground crews as needed to achieve containment in the Mount Uren area. Additionally, crews will be assessing and planning control lines in the Tobacco Creek area, north of the Deadman.

Crews and helicopters hold the line during planned ignition operations at Wadley Hill, north of Red Lake—July 19, 2021.

RESOURCES:

Firefighters – 140
Heavy Equipment - 49
Helicopters – 11 assigned

EVACUATION ALERTS AND ORDERS:

The Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) has issued Evacuation Orders for a total of 289 properties. An additional 298 properties remain on Evacuation Alert. More information is available here: Thompson-Nicola Regional District.

The Chief and Council of the Skeetchestn Indian Band have implemented an Evacuation Order for their community as of 10 pm, July 2, 2021.

AREA RESTRICTION ORDER:

The Area Restriction Order that the BC Wildfire Service implemented at noon on July 1, 2021 in the vicinity of the Sparks Lake wildfire remains in place. The size of the area restriction reflects the continued need to protect the public in areas where there are ongoing fire suppression activities.

ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Sparks Lake Information Section
Telephone: 778-364-1265 | Email: BCWS.SparksLakeInfo@gov.bc.ca

www.bcwildfire.ca | BC Forest Fire Info | @BCGovFireInfo | **www.firesmartbc.ca**

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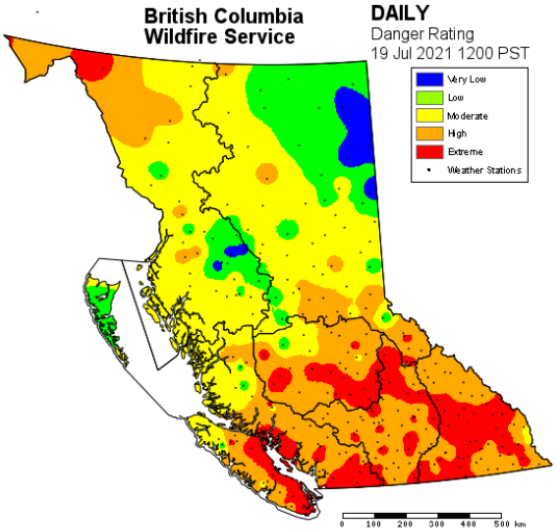
FORECAST: Issued: July 19, 2021 for July 20, 2021

TODAY: Mainly sunny with temperature highs of 20 degrees, relative humidity down to 29%, and winds from the southwest 10 to 20 km/hr gusting up to 30 km/hr.

OUTLOOK: Wednesday and Wednesday night will see the upper low moving inland across the region. Temperatures will only reach near 17 degrees and winds will be moderate to gust from the southwest. The low will move out of the region by Thursday morning and a weak ridge will begin building along the coast giving clearing skies. Temperatures will cool to 16 degrees and winds will be light to moderate from the southwest. The ridge will be over the region Friday with sunny skies and temperatures near 21 degrees.

FIRE DANGER RATING



STRUCTURE PROTECTION:

Four SPU crews (total 20 personnel), four Structure Protection Unit Trailers, two Structural Protection Specialists, and additional water tenders with operators are continuing to work with the Skeetchestn Fire Department. Structure Protection crews are continuing to apply FireSmart principles and triage communities as needed.

YOUNG LAKE WILDFIRE (C41097)

As of July 20, 2021, the Sparks Lake Incident Management Team is no longer managing the Young Lake wildfire. The Young Lake wildfire is now under the management of the Cariboo Fire Centre. Yesterday and today crews will be on-site to establish structure protection for values in the vicinity of the wildfire. For more information about the Young Lake wildfire, please contact:

Cariboo Fire Centre Information Team
CaFCInformationOfficer@gov.bc.ca
778-799-2100

The Evacuation Order issued by the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) remains in place for a total of 56 properties. An additional 231 properties in the area remain on Evacuation Alert. More information is available here: Thompson- Nicola Regional District.

COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGE TO PRIVATE PROPERTY:

Inquiries about compensation for fire suppression damage to private property should be emailed to BCWSClaims@gov.bc.ca.

If you do not have access to email, please direct inquiries to:

"Attention Claims" - BC Wildfire Service,
Victoria HQ
2957 Jutland Road
PO Box 9502 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria, BC, V8W 9C1, CANADA

K521433

The Sparks Lake Incident Management Team is also supporting K21433—5 miles NE of Criss Creek 46 km northwest of Kamloops, which is estimated to be 141 hectares and remains classified as Out of Control.

Spot a wildfire, smoke or illegal fire activity? Call 1 800 663-5555 or *5555 on your cellphone.

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REGISTER FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS:

The Thompson-Nicola Regional District has chosen Voyent Alert! to serve the region to provide residents with critical emergency information. Voyent Alert! is a multi-purpose communication service used to send alerts to residents, businesses, and visitors during critical events like fires or floods as well as for relevant day-to-day communications. Registration is FREE, simple and totally anonymous. For mobile app alerts, download and install the *Voyent Alert!* app from the Apple or Google Play stores For email, text message, or voice call alerts: https://register.voyent-alert.com

Personalized Communications: Voyent Alert! provides informative communications. Critical information such as the distance and direction from an incident, time of intercept and preferred evacuation routes from your tracked locations.

Track Multiple Locations: Voyent Alert! allows you to create and track multiple locations such as “Kids School” or “Mom’s House”. Any event or communication related to your tracked locations will be forwarded to you along your preferred communication channel.

No Message Fatigue: Voyent Alert’s smart alerting capabilities ensure that you will only get notified when a communication is relevant to you or one of the locations you are tracking.

Communications Your Way: Receive alerts over a wide variety of communication channels including mobile apps, text/SMS alerting, email or voice calling You can register for all or one of them.

Privacy is Paramount: Registration is anonymous, and no information volunteered or derived is shared or used for marketing or data harvesting purposes. Locational information from your tracked locations is only used to determine its proximity to an alert event and to provide critical context within the communications (such as distance and direction).

Leaving is Easy: Both mobile applications and web-based accounts provide access to an unsubscribe feature accessed via the menu icon on the top right of the screen/page. If the service isn’t working out simply click on “Unsubscribe” button.

See the full release at: https://www.tnrd.ca/services/emergency-services/emergency-alerts/